

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/029, 581	03/06/98	JAMES	D A25102/US

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 EXAMINER

MILLS, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2771	9

DATE MAILED: 03/15/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/029,581	Applicant(s) James
Examiner John Mills	Group Art Unit 2771

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 22, 1999.

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 8

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The applicant's amendments and arguments filed December 22, 1999 have been entered and have been considered. The rejections made in the first office action are deemed to be applicable here. The claims have not been amended.
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brunner et al. U.S. Patent 5,550,971.

The applicant's invention which relates to a master database which is more efficiently searched by coordination with a local cache database is essentially shown by the cited prior art reference. The applicant argues that the reference does not show checking items between the cache database and the master database by comparing keys. However, this checking is shown by the reference in the summary of the invention as essentially the same function as follows see col. 2 line 34 et seq.

The user interface should be flexible so that if a change is made to the underlying database schema or model, the interface will adapt dynamically to reflect the change without the need to recode and recompile the software that generates the user interface.

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The notion of consistency between the databases is brought out in this passage and the need to insure consistency part of the user interface. The comparing feature that is specifically argued by the applicant is an essential feature of the cited reference.

: The features of the claims are shown by the prior art reference as follows:

In claim 1, the master database is shown in the reference as the remote database element 12 in figure 1 and the cache database is shown in the reference as the local cache database element 26 in figure 1. The operation of the remote and cache database is essentially the same as claimed by the applicant as discussed on Col. 4 lines 53 et seq. and on col. 15 line 1 et seq. On Col 15, it is clear that searching is performed first on the local cache for efficiency, as with the search claimed by the applicant for an item of data and index first in the local cache and then the master cache.

In claim 2, the first key and the second key as broadly claimed by the applicant are shown in the cited reference as the first data type and the second data type for arranging data in the database management scheme as taught on Col. 5 line 36 et seq. The data type and search key reflect the various levels of the database as described on Col. 5 line 20 et seq. These layers are common to both the cache database and the remote database.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected in the analysis above and are rejected on that basis.

Claims 3 and 4 and 7 and 8 provide details of design choice such as a key being designated as a time stamp and the method being used in a client server system. The client/server aspect is

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also shown by the reference in that the context of the prior art is client and case retrieval as shown on Col. 6 line 10 et seq.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John G. Mills whose telephone number is (703) 308-9822. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 5:00.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black , can be reached on (703)-305-9707 . The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703-305-9731) .

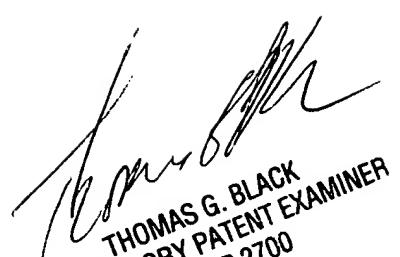
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John G. Mills

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THOMAS G. BLACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700